" Thank you for your time and patience. Without you, I could never have settled the conflicting information about my loans so quickly."

Student Ioan borrower

" I had been trying to solve my school loan problems for years but to no avail. My specialist resolved my problem and I feel like a tremendous weight has been lifted from my shoulders. She was absolutely wonderful! "

Student Ioan borrower

" It was such a relief to finally feel like someone wanted to help. You have no idea what a difference you made to me."

Student loan borrower

#### Useful Information...

FSA Student Aid Information Center:

1.800.4.FED.AID 1.800.433.3243

FSA Student's portal:

www.studentaid.ed.gov

**NSLDS Student Access:** 

www.nslds.ed.gov

General Information:

www.students.gov

#### Contact the Ombudsman...

Telephone: 877.557.2575 (toll free)

202.377.3800 (toll call)

Fax: 202.275.0549

Mail: U.S. Department of Education

FSA Ombudsman 830 First Street, N.E.

Washington, DC 20202-5144

Online: www.ombudsman.ed.gov

Email: fsaombudsmanoffice@ed.gov



# office of the ombudsman

Federal Student Aid U.S. Department of Education



## The Federal Student Aid Ombudsman is...

An impartial resource to help borrowers resolve student loan concerns when other approaches have failed.



## The Ombudsman can help customers...

- ▶ Resolve discrepancies in loan balances and payments.
- ▶ Understand interest and collection charges.
- ▶ Rehabilitate loans by establishing satisfactory repayment plans.
- ▶ Defer or discharge loans.
- Resolve issues related to income tax refund offsets, default status, consolidations, bankruptcies, service quality, and other customer concerns.

#### The Ombudsman does not...

- ▶ Force solutions.
- ▶ Reverse decisions.
- ▶ Advise or represent a borrower in a formal grievance.



## Before contacting the Ombudsman...

Use the customer service processes at the school, lender, and loan service agency contacting you about the loan.



## When contacting the Ombudsman, be ready to...

- ▶ Identify the problem and the reasons behind it.
- ▶ Describe the actions you took to resolve the problem.
- ▶ Define expectations.
- ▶ Outline what you believe you can do to help resolve the problem.
- ▶ Supply personal information (full name, social security number, date of birth, address, phone number) and any documentation to support your position.